

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action having a mailing date of October 22, 2002, wherein:

Claims 1-13 and 17 were pending in the application;

Claim 17 was rejected; and

Claims 1-13 are objected to.

Claim 17 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein, no new claims have been added, and Claim 1 has been amended. Accordingly, Claims 1-13 remain currently pending in the present application.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**.

Formal Matters

In the present Office Action, the Examiner indicated that Applicants' claim 1 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph of claim 1 set forth in the present Office Action. Applicants wish to express their appreciation for the Examiner's indication of allowability as to claim 1 and associated statement of reasons for allowance.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §112

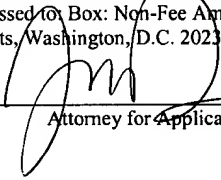
In the present Office Action, claims 1-13 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Claim 1 has been amended in response to this rejection. The described claim amendment has been made merely to clarify the claim language, and is not intended to limit the scope of the claims. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-13, as amended, particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention and that the Examiner's rejection is therefore overcome.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §102

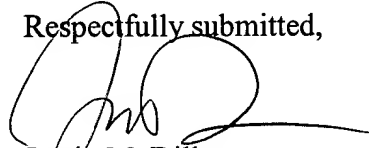
In the present Office Action, claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,953,214, issued to Dranchak et al. (hereinafter "**Dranchak**"). While not conceding that the Examiner's cited reference qualifies as prior art, but instead to expedite prosecution, Applicants have elected to cancel claim 17 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as to claim 17 is rendered moot. Applicants reserve the right, for example, in a continuing application, to establish that the Examiner's cited reference does not qualify as prior art and/or to traverse the rejection as to an invention embodiment previously, currently, or subsequently claimed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 512-439-5097.

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| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Box: Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on <u>January 7, 2003</u> . | |
|  _____ Attorney for Applicant(s) | <u>1-7-03</u> _____ Date of Signature |

Respectfully submitted,


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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

In the Claims

The following claims were amended as indicated:

1. (Amended Two Times) Apparatus for providing termination for at least a first pin of a multi-pin component to be mounted in a footprint area of a first surface of a first circuit board, comprising:

a second circuit board[,] mounted on a second surface of said first circuit board[**and providing a connection to at least a first resistance present thereon**];

at least a first conductive pathway from said first surface of said first circuit board to [a] **said** second surface of said first circuit board to provide access for said at least **a** first pin of said multi-pin component to at least a first location of said second circuit board; and

at least a second conductive pathway, formed at least partially through said second circuit board, from said first location of said second circuit board to [said] at least a first resistance, **wherein said at least a first resistance is associated with said second circuit board.**

Claim 17 was cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.